

Name: _____

How to teach your child to tell the time

Learning to tell the time on an analogue clock (a clock with hands) is hard and yet, it's an important part of the maths curriculum in Year 2. At school, as well as using real clocks, we use a teaching clock where the teacher sets a time and the children have to read it.

For the next two weeks the Year 2 children will be learning to tell the time. For their homework, please can you spend some time with them going over this with them. Below is the method that we use and which we find successful.

- ✓ First, check that your child can count in multiples of 5 from 0 to 60.
- ✓ Next, spend some time focusing on the minute hand only, and looking at past times only, by showing your child times which are multiples of 5.
 - For example, '10 minutes past', '25 minutes past', '5 minutes past'.
- ✓ Then, still looking at past times only, move onto reading times to the nearest minute.
 - For example, '4 minutes past', '18 minutes past', '21 minutes past'.
- ✓ Next, add in the hour.
 - For example, '10 minutes past 3', '20 minutes past 5'.
- ✓ Only at this point, teach that 'quarter past' and 'half past' are special names that we use for '15 past' and '30 past'.
- ✓ Once your child is confident at reading 'past' times, start with the 'to' times, again, teaching the special name for '15 minutes to'.
- ✓ Finally, when your child has started to read both 'past' and 'to' times, ask them to think of this question first - -
 - Is it a 'past' time or a 'to' time?before continuing to work out the time.



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